

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PEKING 2073

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH OVIP (PRESS, DR. FRANK) CH US

SUBJ: FRANK PRESS VISIT: MEETING WITH FANG YI

1. SUMMARY: DR. PRESS MADE HIS INITIAL PRESENTATION TO FANG YI AND THE CHINESE SCIENTISTS MORNING OF JULY 7. HE GAVE U.S. REASONS FOR BELIEVING IN EXPANDED GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONTACTS IN THE SCIENCES, REVIEWED THE U.S. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STRUCTURE, POLICY AND RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. AFTER GIVING A VIEW OF DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES FOR ACADEMIC, GOVERNMENTAL AND INDUSTRIAL EXCHANGES, HE PRESENTED THE MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION, WHO GAVE PREVIEWS OF THE DETAILED INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULED FOR SEPARATE MEETINGS JULY 8.

2. VICE PREMIER FANG YI, IN THE AFTERNOON SESSION, GAVE A REVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF CHINESE S&T AND CURRENT EFFORTS INVOLVING S&T IN DEVELOPING CHINA'S ECONOMY. HE REVIEWED SINO-US S&T RELATIONS, CRITICIZING US EXPORT CONTROL POLICY. AFTER NOTING THAT THE LACK OF NORMALIZED RELATIONS COULD ONLY HAMPER S&T RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND CHINA, HE PROPOSED SINO-US COOPERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND LAUNCHING OF A COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE, IN HIGH-CONFIDENTIAL

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ENERGY PHYSICS, AND SUGGESTED COOPERATION IN OTHER FIELDS WHEN "SOME OBSTACLES" (UNSPECIFIED) ARE REMOVED. HE THEN ASKED THAT DETAILED DISCUSSIONS TAKE PLACE JULY 8 ON EIGHT FIELDS FOR COOPERATION PROPOSED BY THE US.

3. ATMOSPHERE OF TALKS WAS CORDIAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE,

WITH CHINESE FRIENDLY IN PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH AMERICANS.
WE FEEL THAT NEW GROUND HAS BEEN
BROKEN, BUT HOW MUCH PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE DEPENDS ON
OUTCOME OF DETAILED DISCUSSIONS JULY 8. END SUMMARY.

4. DR. PRESS OPENED THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE MEETING
WITH FANG YI AND THE PRC SCIENTISTS BY NOTING THAT HE
WAS HERE AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT CARTER, WHO
STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT AN EXPANDED SCIENCE AND TECH-
NOLOGY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINA AND THE US IS IN
OUR MUTUAL NATIONAL INTERESTS. HE SAID THAT THE US
SEEKS BROADER CONTACTS WITH CHINA BECAUSE WE RECOGNIZE
THAT A STRONG CHINA IS IN AMERICAN SELF-INTEREST, AND
THAT THE US HAS A BASIC INTEREST IN CHINA'S
SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN AGRICULTURE, DEVELOPMENT OF ITS NATURAL
RESOURCES, AND ITS PURSUIT OF AN INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY.

5. DR. PRESS THEN STATED THAT THE US BELIEVES THAT THE TIME HAS
COME TO DEVELOP GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONTACTS IN THE
SCIENCES, AT LEAST ON AN INFORMAL BASIS, AND THAT SUCH CONTACTS
ARE A LOGICAL STEP IN EXPANDING RELATIONS AS ENVISAGED IN THE
SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.

6. AFTER INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION, DR. PRESS
THEN DESCRIBED US S&T ORGANIZATION AND POLICIES AND THE NATURE
OF OUR S&T RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, NOTING THE
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FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND US
S&T AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER CUNTRIES, INCLUDING JAPAN, THE
FRG, THE UK, THE USSR AND THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES, INCLUDING BOTH
GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMY AGREEMENTS.

7. HE REVIEWED THE RECENT HISTORY OF SINO-US S&T RELATIONS,
NOTING THE ROLES PLAYED BY THE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY COMMUNI-
CATIONS AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON US-CHINA TRADE. THE
EXCHANGES SO FAR HAD BEEN MERE SURVEYS, A SORT OF "SCIENTIFIC
TOURISM," BUT A GOOD FIRST STEP. HE PROPOSED A DEEPER RELATION-
SHIP, INCLUDING LONGER-TERM EXCHANGES, INTENSIVE SCIENTIFIC
SEMINARS, AND COMBINED LANGUAGE AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING
PROGRAMS. THE VISIT OF THE CHINESE ENERGY DELEGATION AND
THE 10 PHYSICISTS AT THE FERMI LABORATORY ARE ALREADY A SIGN
OF AN EXPANDED RELATIONSHIP, AND WERE APPROVED IN THE SPIRIT
OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. HE PROPOSED GOVERNMENT-TO-TOVERNMENT
CONTACTS IN JOINT COOPERATIVE RESEARCH, THE EXCHANGE OF DATA,
TRAINING OF CHINESE STUDENTS IN THE US, CHINESE PARTICIPATION
IN SEMINARS ON SPECIAL SUBJECTS, SUCH AS COMPRESSED SUB-STANCES, AND
NOTED THAT CONTACTS COULD BE MADE THROUGH UNIVERSI-
TIES, THE GOVERNMENTS, OR THROUGH INDUSTRY. HE THOUGHT PERIODIC
HIGH-LEVEL GOVERNMENT-TO-TOVERNMENT TALKS WOULD BE USEFUL AS

OUR RELATIONS DEVELOP.

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8. DR. PRESS THEN INTRODUCED THE MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION AND ASKED THEM TO PRESENT SHORT PROPOSALS FOR DETAILED TALKS.
(A) DR. FROSCHE PROPOSED COOPERATION IN REMOTE SENSING AND CHINESE EXPERIMENTS ON US SATELLITES. FANG YI SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN SATELLITES, AND ASKED QUESTIONS ON US COOPERATIVE LAUNCHING OF SYNCHRONOUS SATELLITES FOR OTHER COUNTRIES. DR. FROSCHE EXPLAINED THE PROCEDURES FOLLOWED AND FANG AGREED TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS IN THE DETAILED MEETINGS.
(B) DR. ATKINSON EXPLAINED THE NSF'S OPERATIONS AND PROPOSED POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN ASTRONOMY, DEEP SEA DRILLING, EARTH-QUAKES, ARCHEOLOGY, INFORMATION SCIENCE, AND SCIENCE EDUCATION.

(C) DR. CUTLER DESCRIBED THE SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND PROPOSED POSSIBLE COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE IN GERM PLASM EXCHANGE, BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF PESTS, PLANT DISEASES AND WEEDS, AND RECOMBINANT DNA.
(D) DR. BARUCH SUGGESTED POSSIBLE EXCHANGES IN STANDARDS IN COMPUTER SOFTWARE, EARTHQUAKE HAZARD REDUCTION, WASTE RECYCLING TECHNIQUES, METEOROLOGY, ATMOSPHERIC CHANGE, OCEANIC ENGINEERING, AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM.
(E) DR. DEUTCH OUTLINED THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, AND HOPED TO DISCUSS COAL EXTRACTION, LIQUEFACTION, AND GASIFICATION, OIL EXPLORATION, HYDROELECTRIC POWER, NUCLEAR ENERGY (PARTICULARLY ONCE-THROUGH LIGHT-WATER FISSION SYSTEMS), NUCLEAR FUSION, AND SOLAR ENERGY.

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(F) DR. FREDERICK REVIEWED THE PROGRAMS OF THE NIH, AND SUGGESTED POSSIBILITIES FOR COLLABORATION IN CANCER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES, EXPERIMENTS IN IMMUNOLOGY, SURVEILLANCE OF DISEASES, AND RECOMBINANT DNA RESEARCH.

(G) DR. MENARD DESCRIBED THE SCIENTIFIC WORK OF THE USGS AND FELT THAT SIMILARITIES IN GEOLOGY IN CHINA AND THE US WOULD PROVIDE FRUITFUL GROUND FOR COLLABORATION IN AREAS SUCH AS ON IACUSTRINE OIL DEPOSITS, THE BROAD CONTINENTAL SHELF AND DRILLING RIG EMPLACEMENT THEREON, AND EARTHQUAKE RESEARCH.

(H) MR. HUBERMAN GAVE A BRIEF RESUME OF HIS PROPOSED EXPLANATION OF US EXPORT CONTROLS.

9. FANG YI, IN AFTERNOON MEETING, NOTED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WOULD PLAY A POSITIVE ROLE IN THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND CHINA. FANG GAVE A SUMMARY OF THE RECENT HISTORY OF CHINESE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND NOTED THAT REORGANIZATION OF CHINA'S SCIENCE AWS NECESSARY TO CATCH UP WITH ADVANCED COUNTRIES AND ACHIEVE THE FOUR MODERNIZATIONS.

10. FANG YI DESCRIBED PRC EFFORTS TO DEVELOP ITS S&T, AND NOTED THAT IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE IN SCIENCE AND EDUCATION POLICY IN THE PRC WHICH WOULD PERMIT GREATER EXCHANGES WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES. HE SAID THAT CHINA'S LARGER POPULATION MADE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS S&T A NECESSITY, AND DESCRIBED SEVERAL FUTURE PROJECTS, INCLUDING DIVERSION OF THE YANGTZE RIVER AND EXPLOITATION OF CHINA'S RESOURCES.

11. FANG CRITICIZED US EXPORT CONTROL POLICIES, GIVING AS AN EXAMPLE US REFUSAL TO SELL CHINA A CYBER-76 COMPUTER. HE NOTED THAT CHINA IS TALKING WITH JAPAN AND WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ABOUT PARTICIPATION IN SOME OF THE 120 DEVELOPMENT

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PROJECTS IN THE CURRENT CHINESE TEN-YEAR PLAN.

12. IN DISCUSSING SINO-US BILATERAL RELATIONS, FANG ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE US IS THE LEADER IN WORLD SCIENCE AND SAID THAT THE PRC IS READY TO LEARN FROM THE S&T OF THE US AND TO DISCUSS EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT "RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE US ARE NOT YET NORMALIZED, WHICH CAN ONLY HAMPER RELATIONS IN S&T BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES" AND CRITICIZED WHAT HE SAID WERE US EFFORTS TO OBSTRUCT PRC PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS. HE AGAIN SAID THAT US EXPORT CONTROLS HINDER DEVELOPMENT OF CHINESE S&T CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.

13. AFTER A SHORT BREAK FANG PROPOSED SINO-US GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT COOPERATION ON CERTAIN SUBJECTS, REITERATING THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EXCHANGES UNDER NORMALIZATION AND UNDER LACK OF NORMALIZATION. HE PROPOSED COOPERATION IN SATELLITES, WITH THE PRC CONSTRUCTING A SATELLITE AND NASA PROVIDING LAUNCH FACILITIES. HE POSED QUESTIONS ON DETAILS OF COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES SUCH AS DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, PERSONNEL, EXPENSE, AND SCHEDULES OF LAUNCHING AND PROPOSED A DETAILED EXPLORATION OF THE SUBJECT IN COUNTERPART TALKS JULY 8. HE ALSO SHOWED SPECIFIC INTEREST IN HIGH-ENERGY PHYSICS AND THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A 50 GEV NUCLEAR ACCELERATOR (IN THIS CONNECTION HE MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING STUDENTS TO THE US).

14. FANG SAID THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD "EMPLOY NEW AVENUES FOR FUTURE EXCHANGES WHEN SOME OBSTACLES ARE REMOVED" AND SUGGESTED FUTURE COOPERATION IN SUCH AREAS AS TRAINING, CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES NEW TECHNOLOGY, BASIC SCIENCE EDUCATION, STUDENTS INCLUDING POST-GRADUATES TO THE US, VIDEOTAPES AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS. FANG THEN LISTED THE SUBJECTS AND PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANTS OF THE DETAILED TALKS FOR JULY 8.

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15. COMMENT: THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE TALKS WAS CORDIAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE, AND PERSONAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO DELEGATIONS HAVE BEEN FRIENDLY. THE DELEGATION HAS BEEN GIVEN CONSISTENTLY HIGH-LEVEL TREATMENT SINCE ITS ARRIVAL. WE FEEL THAT THE CHINESE AGREEMENT TO ENGAGE IN GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT COOPERATION IN SOME PHASES OF S&T IS BREAKING NEW GROUND IN OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA, BUT HOW MUCH PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN THIS PRINCIPLE WILL DEPEND ON THE OUTCOME OF THE SESSIONS JULY 8.
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